

Attention FDA

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It came to my attention that the FDA is being asked to take away my right to sign a medical waiver before purchasing a hearing aid. Instead I would be forced to have a medical exam or hearing test. Here's my views and/or experiences on several related questions?

1. Should I be forced to have a medical exam and/or hearing test before purchasing a hearing aid? If so, should the FDA pay for the exam? NO. Most hearing

impaired have already been to a doctor anyway and/or also knew if they need medical attention.
There are not drugs or medicines that need a prescription.
The individual is better able to determine if an aid helps than any audiologist in a sound proof booth.

2. Some people are physically unable to drive to a doctor or hearing specialist, or have had bad experiences they don't want to repeat. For instance ...

- 1) My mother in law went to an audiologist who sold her two aids for \$1,400 - didn't help as much as one I bought from Flayds for \$200.
- 2) I had ear surgery & needed a new mold. Audiologist who was with tube channel so small my little sound got through - I drilled hole proper size & much improvement. Trying to sell me a new mold?
- 3) A friend of mine kept going back to his audiologist & every time a new aid which he said would give him more hearing - ended up 7 or 8 thousand dollars for aids.

3. Should the FDA take away my Constitutional Right, affirmed by the Supreme Court, to decide for myself my medical exams and treatment?

Absolutely not.

4. Should I be allowed to purchase hearing aids by mail as I choose?

yes

Signed by: William R. Wood

Date: 3/10/00

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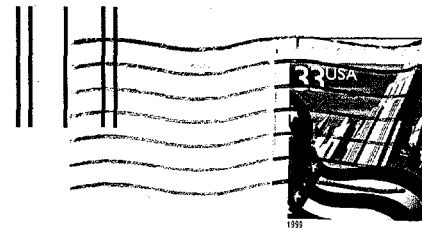
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